

EMS Vision Update 2000
Integrating the Pieces
November 29-December 1, 2000
The Marines' Memorial Club & Hotel
609 Sutter Street
San Francisco, California

Vision Access Committee

Chair: Jeff Clet, Division Chief San Jose Fire Department.

Co-Chair: Carol Biancalana, EMSA

Sub-Committee Members/Stakeholder Representatives: Mike Harris (EMSAAC), Cheryl Talton (PPSAP), Reginald Chappelle (CHP), Kevin White (CPF), Sam Spiegel (CPOA), Sue Wright (CHP).

Introduction: Opening remarks were made by Jeff Clet. At this time, he identified and discussed the goals.

Agenda: New objectives prioritized were discussed:

1. Universal access to 911 (position paper).
2. EMD standards (dispatch immunity).
3. Access management (patient referral).
4. Link medical call centers and 911.
 - Original Purpose Statement Objective #2: Access to EMS for perceived emergency needs should be via a universal access system, such as 911. This system should have the ability to distinguish and provide care appropriate to need.
 - Original Purpose Statement Objective #5: Improve enhanced 911 system access in rural areas and support and advocate installation of call boxes on federal/state highways.

-Cindy Keehen discussed the Active Objective Update,

Active Objective Comments:

1. Universal Access to 911
 - defined Universal Access
 - discussed legislation for wireless access to 911
2. Discussed Rural Telecommunications
 - questions about it there were any areas in California where there is no telephone service
 - still discussions on Universal Access
 - federal/state highway call boxes are used as a motorist aid system
3. Recommendations
 - EMSA should adopt a sub-committee position paper
 - EMSA support recommended topics for community outreach programs.
4. Conclusions: continuous collaborative efforts.

EMD Standards

-The panel is Mike Warren, Ardith Hamilton, Jan Bullard, Sam Spiegel

-Discussion to implement EMD program should be made by EMD provider agency.

1. City Council
2. County Board of Supervisors
3. Fire District Board of Supervisors

-Discussed proposed legislative guidelines should include:

1. General provisions
2. EMD training programs
3. Internship/hours of training
4. Certification/Re-certification
5. Continuing dispatch education
6. Quality improvement assessment

-Training program certification

Proposition: Training program plans submitted for review and approval to:

1. Public- POST or State Fire Marshals or
2. Private- EMSA
 - Goal is enabling dispatch training/certification by late 2001
 - Standards certified through more than one agency (to enable, rather than restrict)

-Once a curriculum is developed, it will be reviewed.

- Provider submits to LEMSA
- LEMSA will not unreasonably withhold verification of the process
- Appeals directed to EMSA
- LEMSA shall provide written verification to the agency

-Sam Spiegel discussed Qualified Immunity

Goal: Modify programs through training to make sure all agencies meet standards. Then they will have qualified immunity (burden of proof shifts to the plaintiff).

- Pursuit Policy guidelines were used as a model for Qualified Immunity guidelines.

Questions:

1. Whether or not to use a referral in language regarding qualified immunity
2. Can EMSA override a LEMSA decision?
 - Use appeal panel locally?
3. Is there a DOT standard communications curriculum?
 - Through legislative guidelines, it will be established what the training program should look like.
 - Can it be a basic model?
4. Is there a standard of care?
 - Only if the agency chooses to adopt that program.
5. Is there an understanding that this is a local government decision, not only law enforcement?
6. Has there been a discussion about funding?
7. LEMSA is doing certification. Has that been presented to local law enforcement?
 - Approval of provider agency will be done at the LEMSA level.